

December 17, 2002

Public Notice for 401 Certification
California Department of Transportation Highway 1 Post Mile 62.5
Culvert Replacement Project, WDID No. 1B02159WNME

Mendocino County

On September 26, 2002, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from the California Department of Transportation (CDOT) requesting Federal Clean Water Act Section 401 Certification for the Highway 1 Post Mile 62.5 Culvert Replacement Project in Mendocino County. The proposed project will cause disturbances to waters of the United States tributary to Pudding Creek within the Noyo River Hydrologic Unit No. 113.00.

The project is located near Fort Bragg. The project consists of the removal and replacement of 20 feet of a 116-foot long culvert. The CDOT proposes to divert streamflow around the culvert, excavate and remove the damaged section, attach a new section of culvert, and replace the fill around the culvert.

Approximately 0.004 acres of streambed will be temporarily impacted by the project. The stream is small and has no recorded anadromous fish. The California Department of Fish and Game informed CDOT that a Streambed Alteration Agreement would not be necessary for the project.

Non-compensatory mitigation measures include the use of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to control downstream turbidity and impacts from sediment discharge.

The Regional Water Board, as the lead California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) agency, has determined that this project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption pursuant to CEQA.

Staff is proposing to regulate this culvert replacement project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341). In addition, staff will consider all comments received during a 21-day comment period that begins on the first date of issuance of this notice. If you have any questions or comments, please contact staff member Mona Dougherty at (707) 570-3761, or at doug@rb1.swrcb.ca.gov within 21 days of the posting of this notice.

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